(e) The details in this regard are as under:—

(i) it is proposed to exchange of power of about 100-120 MW from India to Bangladesh.

(ii) Under the Mahakali Treaty between Government of India and Nepal, the latter shall have the right to receive 70 MU energy annually free of cost. 132 KV transmission line from Tanakpur to Mahendranagar (Nepal), funded by Government of India for the Indian portion is proposed to be constructed by POWERGRID.

(iii) Govt. of India have confirmed its interest to purchase surplus power from Pakistan.

Kudankulan Atomic Power Plant

216. SHRI ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Kudankulan Atomic Power Project snag over payment mode" appearing in the Observer dtd. September 29, 1997;

(b) whether the Kudankulan Atomic Power Project (KAPP) in Tamil Nadu to be built by Russia is facing difficulties over the mode of payment;

(c) if so, the present status of this issue; and

(d) the details of funds made available during 1997-98 to procure equipment and machinery to establish atomic power projects in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In the context of implementation of the 2 × 1000 MWe VVER type light water reactor nuclear power station at Koodankulam in Tamil Nadu with technical cooperation and financial assistance from the Russian Federation in terms of an Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) of 1988 between the Government of the erstwhile USSR and India, a supplement to the IGA is being negotiated with the Russian Federation which *inter alia* would include the terms for financing the project.

(d) Approved total capital outlay for 1997-98 for atomic power projects is Rs. 860 crore, comprising Rs. 325 crore as Government budgetary support, Rs. 35 crore as internal resources generation and Rs. 500 crore as market borrowings by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL). In addition, a provision of Rs. 83 crore for the Koodankulam project for preparation of a Detailed Project Report and Rs. 64 crore for TAPP 3&4 has been made.

Non-Aggression Pact

217. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistan Prime Minister in his address to UN General Assembly has offered non-aggression pact to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Indian Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) Prime Minister of Pakistan's address to the 52nd Session of the UN General Assembly, on 22 September, 1997, contained a passing reference to the opening of negotiations on a treaty of non-aggression between India and Pakistan. A treaty of non-aggression between India and Pakistan is not a new idea and discussions have taken place between the two countries on this subject in the past. In the context of Pakistan Prime Minister's remarks on this subject in his UN General Assembly address, Government have not received any formal proposal from Pakistan.

(c) Does not arise.

Visit of American Team

218. SHRI MADHAVARAO SCINDIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an American team led by the US-Assistance Secretary of State visited, New Delhi in first week of September, 1997 on the eve of PM's visit to the US in connection with UN Session;

(b) if so, the issues discussed with the team; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir. US Assistant Secretary of State, Inderfurth visited Delhi from September 2 to 4, 1997. This was his first visit to India, soon after taking office.

(b) A number of issues of bilateral interest were discussed during the visit as well as cooperation in regional and global matters. Cooperation in law enforcement, science and technology, economic and commercial links, environment, terrorism etc., figured prominently.

(c) The discussions were very useful in moving forward the ongoing, wide ranging and forward looking dialogue with the US on bilateral, regional and global issues.

11.23 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, November 20, 1997 Kartika 29, 1919 (Saka).